

<u>Sign of the Zodiac*</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
Aries	March 26 - April 15
Taurus	April 25 - May 15
Gemini	May 26 - June 15
Cancer	June 26 - July 16
Leo	July 27 - August 16
Virgo	August 28 - September 17
Libra	September 27 - October 17
Scorpio	October 28 - November 17
Sagittarius	November 27 - December 17
Capricorn	December 26 - January 15
Aquarius	January 25 - February 14
Pisces	February 24 - March 16

In the absence of population bases to compute age-adjusted death rates, this study examines mean and median ages at death specific for race, sex and astrological sign. A nonparametric statistical procedure—the *median test*—is used to determine whether age differences among the zodiac signs are statistically significant (10). The test is applied to both the 31,980 decedents ages one and older and the 28,920 decedents over age forty since the experts suggest that the influence of the Sun may develop as life goes on and that the young could be influenced mainly by their Ascendent. The Ascendent is the sign rising on the eastern horizon at the very minute of birth (9).

For the decedent population ages one and older (cusp-born excluded), this study also examines causes of death and uses the chi-square criterion to test the hypothesis that causes of death are independent of Sun-sign at birth. Causes selected for analysis are those for which the frequency of the condition as an underlying cause is thought fairly representative of the incidence at death. This excludes diabetes and some other conditions which are very often considered "associated" rather than underlying causes.

Deaths coded to the following categories have been examined:

<u>Underlying Cause of Death</u>	<u>ICDA Codes (11)</u>
Cardiovascular Disease	390-458
Cancer of the Trachea, Bronchus and Lung	162
Cancer excluding Trachea, Bronchus and Lung	140-161, 163-209
Cirrhosis of the Liver	571
Motor Vehicle Accidents	810-823
Accidents excluding Motor Vehicles	800-807, 825-949
Suicide	950-959
Homicide	960-978

RESULTS

The table on the following page shows for four race-sex groups the numbers of decedents ages one and older born under each of the Sun-signs (cusp-born excluded). On the average, 90 percent of these decedents were over age forty.

*Sun-sign at birth, as featured in the mass media.